

Military Academy at Barrackpore

*208. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1310 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th December, 2004 and state:

(a) whether the proposal for establishment of Military Academy at Barrackpore has been finalised; and

(b) if so, by when this Academy is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. A detailed feasibility study is being conducted which includes identification of suitable locations.

Minimum pension under P.F. linked pension scheme

†*209. SHRI ALI ANWAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of minimum pension fixed under the P.F. linked pension scheme;

(b) whether this amount is lesser than the minimum wages fixed for the daily wagers;

(c) if so, whether Government are contemplating to increase the same; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) For the members of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 who joined the Scheme, on or after 16.11.1995, no minimum monthly Member Pension is prescribed. The amount of monthly Member Pension in such cases is computed in accordance with the following factors, namely:

Monthly Member Pension=Pensionable Salary X Pensionable service

70

As regards the members of the EPS, '95 who were also members of the erstwhile Employees' Family Pension Scheme, 1971, para 12 of the EPS, '95 provides the computation for past service benefits (of the service

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

rendered before 16-11-1995); and the benefit of pensionable service rendered after 16-11-1995. Para 12 of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 also provides for minimum pension for different periods of aggregate service rendered prior to and after 16.11.1995.

(b) The amount of pension under the scheme is not linked to minimum wages; rather, it is determined on the basis of pensionable salary and pensionable service.

(c) and (d) Increase in the amount of pensionary benefit depends on the position of the Pension Fund. At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government as the actuarial valuation does not permit any increase.

Arms seizure by army in Kolkata

*210. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Army and the State Police recovered a huge stockpile of arms and ammunition, including over 500 anti-personnel landmines, 543 anti-personnel mines, 691 bullets of 9 mm caliber, 340 bullets of 7.62 mm caliber, 58 bullets of .303 caliber and 5.56 mm INSAS ammunition, manufactured at the Ichapur ordnance factory at Behala in Kolkata;

(b) whether the seizure is one of the largest recoveries of mines and other weapons from any metropolitan city during the recent times;

(c) if so, whether any inquiry was conducted; and

(d) the steps taken to check such disappearance of arms from the ordnance factory?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Though, the Army and the State Police had recovered the said ammunition from an Army Personnel along with his civilian associates, the said ammunition is not manufactured at any of the two Ordnance Factories located at Ichapore, Kolkata.

(b) It is a big seizure of mine shells and bullets.

(c) Inquiry by the army and police authorities is in progress.